

# Mountaineer

Vol. 64, No. 26

Published in the interest of the 7th Infantry Division and Fort Carson community  
Visit the Fort Carson Web site at [www.carson.army.mil](http://www.carson.army.mil)

June 30, 2006

## Carson makes room for more children

Story and photo by  
Sgt. Clint Stein

Mountaineer staff

The Mountain Post has recently made room for 255 more children in its child development centers.

A grand opening ceremony of three new child development centers that will help provide additional child care support for the Fort Carson community was held Monday.

Each of the new child care facilities were constructed with 10 modular units combined to form one building that accommodates around 100 people, 81 to 87 of whom will be children with the remaining being child care workers, said Jan McConnell, Child and Youth Services coordinator.

The Southwest Center, which is an hourly-care facility, is located near Gate 5 on Titus Boulevard, bldg 7790, across from the golf course. This center can accommodate a maximum of 81 children from ages ranging from six weeks to 12 years, said Analida O'Neil, the facility's director.

Typically, the daylong child development centers only allow children under pre-kindergarten age, but O'Neil said the Southwest Center is different because it's hourly care.

If parents have more than one child who are years apart, but under 12, the siblings can stay in the same facility. "This keeps the parents from having to go to two different places to drop off their kids, especially if the parents have

a meeting or doctor's appointment," said O'Neil.

McConnell said it was no coincidence the hourly child care facility was built near Evans Army Community Hospital just down the street. "The hourly-care center was put near the hospital to help with those parents who have medical appointments and can drop their children off on the way."

The convenient location of the Southwest Center to the hospital is what parents have said they like the most about the center, said O'Neil. "We have gotten more thanks for the location and the extended hours than anything else so far."

In the older hourly-care facility, the hours of operation were from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., but the new hours for the Southwest Center have been extended from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.

McConnell said this change was made to help those single-Soldier parents who have medical appointments at the hospital or who are in and out processing and need the extra time.

For parents who need more than just an hour away from their children, the other two new facilities may be of some assistance.

The other two childcare facilities are located near Gates 3 and 20, and will accommodate 87 children in each. Since they are daily-care facilities, children must range in ages from 6 weeks to 5 years, said McConnell.

The new facility located near Gate 20 is the Southeast Center, bldg 2765



Malik Taylor, in blue, helps cut the ribbon during the grand opening ceremony of three new Fort Carson Child Development Centers Monday.

on Womack, and the new facility near Gate 3 is the North Center, bldg 4355 on Funk Street.

McConnell said one of the reasons for building the three new modular facilities and spreading them out across post is for convenience.

"Not everybody comes through the same gate. Having diverse locations near the most used gates should help make things easier for the families," she said.

Making lives easier for military families is something McConnell said CYS and Fort Carson always strive for.

"Our mission is to provide a quality service to our Soldiers and their families," she said.

"The commanders know how

important quality of life is for our Soldiers and families here and child care has always been one of the top priorities."

As a high priority project, construction on the new facilities began in February and are now open for business and McConnell said she is pleased with how they turned out.

"You would never know these buildings were modular units unless you saw them being constructed," she said.

"They're a great blessing to Fort Carson and its families."

For more information about the new child development centers or registration for child care call the Central Registration office at 526-1100/1101.

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### MUST SEE



Fort Carson Soldiers flip flapjacks.  
See Pages 22-23.

## MPs train on new equipment

Story and photos by Master  
Sgt. Dennis E. Beebe

Mountaineer staff

The 759th Military Police Battalion took delivery of a new vehicle June 1. This vehicle, the "Bearcat," is a commercial-off-the-shelf item that has been modified by the Lenco Corporation for the Defense Threat Reduction Agency.

The 759th is testing the vehicle with their Special Reaction Team, a joint team with the Department of the Army civilian police and the Fort Carson MPs.

At the conclusion of this appraisal, the vehicle will become a permanent asset for the SRT here.

"We are really looking forward to running some different scenarios with the Bearcat and putting it through its paces. It will be a fantastic new tool for us and is suitable for almost everything

we do," said 1st Lt. Ryan Triplett, team leader of the Special Reaction Team.

"The Bearcat is an enormous tool for our Force Protection posture and response on Fort Carson. It also has some capabilities that we may be able to use in other theaters of operation," said Lt. Col. Chad McRee, commander of the 759th MP Battalion.

"This vehicle has enormous capabilities with inherent force protection, and can be adapted for use in multiple environments. We are the first ever in the Army to possess this vehicle and our folks have worked extremely hard to make this come to fruition. I am very proud of all their efforts."

The vehicle is based on a Ford F-550 Super Heavy Duty engine, transmission and chassis. The dashboard, instruments and steering wheel are what you would see in a commercial

See Bearcat on Page 9

# Remember brave Soldiers this holiday, says Mixon

**Commentary by Maj. Gen. Robert W. Mixon Jr.**

*7th Infantry Division and Fort Carson commanding general*

*"Thus may the fourth of July, that glorious and ever memorable day, be celebrated through America, by the sons of freedom, from age to age till time shall be no more."*

— *Virginia Gazette, July 18, 1777*

Every Fourth of July we should take pride in the founding fathers who waged a desperate fight to overcome tyranny and live in freedom. From Bunker Hill and Concord to Valley Forge, our founding fathers made the down payments for the ideals of freedom and liberty that we cherish

today. And today we honor the current generation of American patriots, who have answered the call to defend our freedom and to bring freedom to others. Like our forefathers, we, too, are fighting for a cause. It's called freedom.

Who knew that the 56 men who pledged their lives and fortunes to sign the Declaration of Independence would two centuries later be the inspiration for this great county of ours and others around the world?

The torch of freedom, that proudly shines from atop the Statue of Liberty so, too, shines in all of us. The torch of freedom that our Soldiers carry to defend our way of life both here and abroad, as well as aid those less fortunate, is indicative of what this country stands for.

This Fourth of July, I ask that

we pause to remember the brave Soldiers deployed in harm's way, for they carry the torch of freedom that those 56 patriots ignited 230 years ago. And, too, our military families — the heart of our wonderful Army — we could not do what our country asks of us without their love and support.

Ruth and I want to wish all of you a wonderful Fourth of July weekend. I encourage everyone to be safe and to spend time with family and friends and to get out and enjoy all the wonderful opportunities that the Pikes Peak region offers. God bless each and every one of you and may God continue to bless the United States of America.



**Mixon**

## POST TALK: How will you celebrate the Fourth of July weekend?



*"I'm going to Six Flags in Denver with my family."*

**Pfc. Cassandra Smith**  
2nd Brigade Support Battalion



*"Watch the fireworks show at Ironhorse Park."*

**Pvt. Pedro Hernandez**  
2nd Brigade Special Troops Battalion



*"Going to Denver to visit our grandchildren and watch them play in a soccer tournament."*

**Maggie Aro**  
Family member



*"Taking my family to the Ironhorse Park celebration and fireworks display."*

**Sgt. 1st Class Thomas Dougherty**  
2nd Brigade Combat Team



*"I'm going to Turkey Creek Ranch with my family."*

**Sgt. 1st Class Allen Beebe**  
Medical Activity Command



*"My girl friend's parents are taking us to Las Vegas, but not to gamble."*

**Pvt. Chris Kube**  
2nd Brigade Support Battalion

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This commercial enterprise newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the Department of Defense.

Contents of the *Mountaineer* are not necessarily the official view of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government or the Department of the Army. Printed circulation is 12,000 copies.

The editorial content of the *Mountaineer* is the responsibility of the Public Affairs Office, Fort Carson, CO 80913-5119. Tel.: (719) 526-4144. The e-mail address is [mountaineereditor@carson.army.mil](mailto:mountaineereditor@carson.army.mil).

The *Mountaineer* is posted on the Internet at <http://public.carson.army.mil/sites/PAO/mountaineer/archives/forms>.

The *Mountaineer* is an unofficial publication authorized by AR 360-1. The *Mountaineer* is printed by Colorado Springs Military Newspaper Group, a private firm in no way connected with the Department of the Army, under exclusive written contract with Fort Carson. It

is published 49 times per year.

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The *Mountaineer's* editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the Public Affairs Office, building 1550, room 2180, Fort Carson, CO 80913-5119, phone (719) 526-4144.

Releases from outside sources are so indicated. The deadline for submissions to the *Mountaineer* is close of business the week before the next issue is published. The *Mountaineer* staff reserves the right to edit submissions for newspaper style, clarity and typographical errors.

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# NEWS

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## DoD to continue smallpox vaccinations despite Soldier death

by Donna Miles

*American Forces Press Service*

**WASHINGTON** — The Defense Department has no plans to discontinue its smallpox vaccination program, despite the June 22 announcement that vaccinations may have caused a Soldier's death.

A panel of military doctors concluded that vaccinations may have caused the death of Army Pfc. Christopher "Justin" Abston.

Abston received the smallpox and injectable influenza vaccines in November at Fort Bragg, N.C., and died suddenly in his barracks room 16 days later, on Dec. 4, Pentagon officials said.

His autopsy revealed an inflammation of the heart muscle, or "myocarditis."

The smallpox vaccine is one of several known triggers of this condition. Evidence of another known trigger for the condition was found during the autopsy.

"Evidence of the vaccinia virus, the main ingredient of smallpox vaccine, was not found in his heart muscle, but evidence of a different virus, parvovirus B19, was found," a Defense Department release stated.

"Natural infection with parvovirus B19 is another known cause of heart inflammation and death."

A panel of military medical experts determined it is "neither probable nor unlikely," merely "possible," that vaccinations caused Abston's death.

Abston is the only service member whose death has been linked to the smallpox vaccine. Of 1 million service members vaccinated through the program, 120 developed myocarditis or similar conditions, but all others survived.

DoD initiated the smallpox vaccination program in December 2002 to protect service members from the highly contagious smallpox disease, Air Force Lt. Col. Ellen Krenke, a Pentagon spokeswoman,

told American Forces Press Service. The program is used to protect troops assigned to U.S. Central Command, U.S. Forces Korea, or designated units with homeland defense missions.

"The smallpox vaccine has been given billions of times to Americans and people all over the world in the last century," Krenke said.

Hundreds of studies have assessed the vaccine, and DoD will continue to monitor the safety of the smallpox vaccine and all other vaccines it uses to protect service members, she said.

Dr. William Winkenwerder, assistant secretary of defense for health affairs, expressed condolences to Abston's family and regret about his death.

"Medicine remains an inexact science," he said.

"And when we lose one of our Soldiers, we recognize how much about medicine that we still do not know."

## Army raises enlistment age to 42

*Army Recruiting Command*

**FORT KNOX, Ky.** — The U.S. Army announced June 21 that it has raised the maximum enlistment age for both the active Army and Army Reserve from 40 to 42.

This change was made possible under provisions of the Fiscal Year 2006 National Defense Authorization Act. The Army raised the active duty age limit to 40 in January as an interim step while it worked out the additional medical screening requirements for recruits age 40 to 42. Prior to January, an applicant could not have reached his or her 35th birthday. The Army Reserve age limit was raised from 35 to 40 in March 2005.

More than 1,000 individuals over age 35 have enlisted in the Army and Army Reserve since the age limits were raised.

## Enlistment

From Page 3

Raising the maximum age for Army enlistment expands the recruiting pool, provides motivated individuals an opportunity to serve, and strengthens the readiness of Army units.

All applicants must meet eligibility standards, to include passing the same physical standards and medical examination; however those 40 to 42 will be given additional medical screening.

The program applies to both men and women. Older applicants are eligible for the same enlistment bonuses and other incentives available to younger applicants.

Experience has shown that older recruits who can meet the physical demands of military service generally make excellent Soldiers based on their maturity, motivation, loyalty and patriotism.

To learn more about active Army opportunities, visit your local Army recruiter or log on to [www.goarmy.com](http://www.goarmy.com).

# STAND-TO! offers daily news

by Julie Cupernall

*Army News Service*

**WASHINGTON** — For Army news look to STAND-TO!

A free electronic newsletter, STAND-TO! is distributed daily via e-mail. The one-page newsletter serves as a link — or table of contents — leading to Army-related news around the Internet. It includes a daily focus, news about the Army and the War on Terror, as well as links to blogs and commentaries.

Because it presents readers with two-to-five word pegs describing the linked information, the newsletter saves readers time they'd otherwise spend surfing various news agencies. The publication shows both favorable and negative opinions of the Army.

"We try to show more than just what the Army thinks of the Army," said Robert Schell, senior Web developer for [Army.mil](http://Army.mil). "The new section linking readers to different blogs helps us show that full spectrum."

"The stories we link to in the World View section show how everybody else views the U.S., broadening the narrow picture we get from following our national media alone,"

said Michael Anastasio III, editor of STAND-TO!

Getting the big Army picture is also part of what drives the "Today's Focus" section of STAND-TO! The focus changes daily, and explains lesser known or complex elements of Army doctrine and programs. It sometimes includes a quote from Army decision makers chiming in on the newsletter's daily topic.

Anastasio canvases military and civilian media sources each morning to find information to include in "News About the Army," "War on Terror News" and "Of Interest."

An "Information You Can Use" section rounds out the newsletter with additional links to Web sites covering upcoming events or information outlets. Everything from links to live Web casts to information on the Army Referral Bonus Program can be found in this section.

Since its first edition in October 2004, STAND-TO! has grown to serve a global audience of more than 10,000 military members and civilians. STAND-TO! is available to anybody, the common bond among subscribers being an interest in the Army.

To receive the daily STAND-TO! newsletter, go to <http://lists.army.mil/mailman/listinfo/stand-to>, or view today's edition of STAND-TO! at [www.army.mil/standto](http://www.army.mil/standto).



# MILITARY

## 3rd HBCT Soldiers find baby on patrol

**Story and photos by Pfc. Paul J. Harris**

*3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team*

**BALAD, Iraq** — An Iraqi male infant was found on the side of the road close to Logistical Support Area Anaconda near Balad, Iraq, June 9 by a patrol from Battery B, 3rd Battalion, 29th Field Artillery, 3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team.

Staff Sgt. Donald White and his team came across a box on the side of the road. Initially, he thought it to be an improvised explosive device until he heard crying coming from the box. White made sure there were no wires protruding from the box and made sure it was not booby-trapped.

"I ran as fast as I could, snatched the box off the ground and kept on running, thankfully nothing blew up," White said.

White then asked Spc. John Sullivan, health-care specialist, to evaluate the child and assess its medical needs.

"The skin was literally hanging off the child and we could see it was massively dehydrated and malnourished," Smith said. "Sullivan told me we needed to get the child to a hospital right away and we jumped into the trucks and drove to the hospital as fast as we could."

In transit to Balad Air Base Hospital, Sullivan

turned the air conditioning vents in the baby's direction so the air would cool the infant.

"I was nervous because I have never had to professionally treat a sick child before," Sullivan said. "(He) did not cry at all in the vehicle but his eyes rolled in the back of his head and I thought 'oh my goodness, he is starting to die on me.'"

The Air Force medical staff at Balad Air Base Hospital was ready and waiting to treat the child by inserting a feeding tube to replenish lost fluids. After a while, the infant regained its strength and was stable enough to be released. A civilian liaison with the Iraqi hospital in Balad was called and the child was released to hospital care.

White credits the success of the rescue to the members of his Blue Delta patrol, not just himself and Sullivan.

"In all this God-awful mess ... finally something good has come out of it," Smith said. "Hopefully, as a result, God will bless us for the next few months that we are here."

The baby was reunited with its mother June 19. The mother of the child told Iraqi police she left the child in her daughter's care. The daughter was carrying the infant when she was chased by wild dogs and left the baby so she could run faster, according to Capt. Lance Awbrey, battery commander.



*Maj. Jase Dean, physician, 332nd Expeditionary Medical Operations Group from Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, holds a baby he treated for dehydration at Balad Air Base, Iraq. The baby was found abandoned on the side of the road near Logistical Support Area Anaconda by a patrol from Battery B, 3rd Battalion, 29th Field Artillery, 3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team.*

# Military briefs

## Miscellaneous

**Post shuttle service ceases** — Due to restricted funds, the post shuttle will cease operations today at the close of business until further notice.

**Harmony In Motion auditions** — Fort Carson's Harmony In Motion singing group is holding open auditions for sopranos, altos, tenors and basses July 17-21 at Freedom Performing Arts Center. For details visit the Web site at [www.carson.army.mil/harmony](http://www.carson.army.mil/harmony) or call Sgt. Joshua Soelzer at 338-2340 or 524-3618.

**Casualty training** — Fort Carson holds casualty training July 18-21 from 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. in bldg 1117, the Mountain Post Training and Education Center, room 202B. This training is mandatory for Soldiers assuming casualty assistance officer and casualty notification officer duties. For more information call 526-5613 or e-mail [casualty\\_gl@carson.army.mil](mailto:casualty_gl@carson.army.mil).

**HMCC closure** — Due to budget constraints, the Hazardous Material Control Center will be closed beginning July 8 until further notice. This closure will require Fort Carson units and activities to order, store and issue their own Class II Packaged Products. The HMCC will no longer provide staff assistance visits to unit's hazardous materials custodians. For more information call 526-9094.

**Environmental Health training** — The Environmental Health section of Preventive Medicine offers heat category monitoring training, food service sanitation training and classes on heat and cold weather injuries, sexually transmitted diseases, hearing conservation and medical threat briefings. For more information on these classes call 526-7922 or 524-2238.

**MP Corps anniversary** — The 759th Military Police Battalion is celebrating the 65th anniversary of the Military Police Corps July 15 at the Double Tree Hotel Ballroom in Colorado Springs. All active duty, Reserve component and retired MP Soldiers are invited to attend the ball. For more information or to R.S.V.P. call Capt. Christian Blevins at 526-8031 or e-mail [Christian.Blevins@carson.army.mil](mailto:Christian.Blevins@carson.army.mil) by July 7. Cocktail hour will begin at 6 p.m. followed by a receiving line at 6:30 p.m.

**Joint Personal Property Shipping Office** — The Joint Personal Property Shipping Office is scheduling group briefings to accommodate Soldiers set to depart the Mountain Post this summer. Individual briefings will not be held except in emergencies. All briefings will be group briefings. Soldiers must make an appointment to attend group briefings by calling 526-3755 or stopping by bldg 1220.

**Officer Candidate School board** — OCS local board packets must be turned in to the 502nd Personnel Services Battalion, bldg 1118, room 316, no later than July 10. The original application packet plus two copies should be turned in. Packets will be consolidated and those meeting eligibility requirements will be scheduled for the local OCS board to be held July 17-18 from 7 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Elkhorn Conference Center, bldg 7300. Packets for those candidates approved will be forwarded to the Department of the Army for approval during the week of Sept. 11. For more information call 526-5824.

**Learning Resource Center offerings** — The Learning Resource Center, located in the Education Center, bldg 1117, room 216, offers academic review including GT preparation, GED assistance, placement tests including SAT, ACT, GRE, GMAT and more. Patrons may also use computers to check e-mail, surf the Internet or navigate desktop application tutorials. Hours of operation include Monday-Thursday 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Friday 9 a.m.-5 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m.-3 p.m. For more

information call the Learning Resource Center at 526-4058/8077.

**DPW services** — Do you know who to call when a windstorm causes damage to your facility, overturns a portable latrine or when trash containers are overflowing?

The Directorate of Public Works is responsible for a wide variety of services on Fort Carson. Services range from repair and maintenance of facilities to equipping units with a sweeper, and cleaning motor pools. Listed below are phone numbers and points of contact for services:

- Facility repair/service orders — KIRA service order desk at 526-5345. Use this number for emergencies or routine tasks.

- Refuse/trash — Call Virgil Redding at 526-6676 when needing trash containers, trash is overflowing or emergency service is required.

- Facility custodial services — Call Larry Haack at 526-6669 for service needs or to report complaints.

- Elevator maintenance — Call Larry Haack at 526-6669.

- Motor pool sludge removal/disposal — Call Don Phillips at 526-9271.

- Repair and utility/self-help — Call Gary Grant at 526-5844. Use this number to obtain self-help tools and equipment or a motorized sweeper.

- Base operations contract COR — Call Terry Hagen at 526-9262 for reporting wind damage, snow removal concerns, damaged traffic signs or other facility damage.

- Portable latrines — Call Fred Buckner at 526-6676 to request latrines, for service or to report damaged or overturned latrines.

## CIF Hours

### Regular business hours

Due to the number of Soldiers who need to clear the Central Issue Facility during June and July, CIF is adjusting their operating hours temporarily. CIF will revert to normal operating hours Aug. 1. Soldiers may make turn-in appointments by calling 526-3321. Listed below are the new operating hours.

### Initial issues

Monday, Wednesday and Friday 7:30-11:30 a.m.

### Partial issues

Monday and Wednesday 1:30-3 p.m. and Friday 7:30-11:30 a.m.

### Cash sales/report of survey

Monday through Thursday from 7:30-11:30 a.m. and 12:30-3 p.m. and Friday from 7:30-11:30 a.m.

### Direct exchange

Monday and Wednesday 1:30-3 p.m. and Friday 7:30-11:30 a.m.

### Partial turn-ins

Monday through Thursday from 12:30-3 p.m.

### Full turn-ins

Monday, Wednesday and Friday 7:30-11:30 a.m. and Tuesday and Thursday from 7:30 a.m.-3 p.m.

### Unit issues and turn ins

Call 526-5512/6477 for approval.

## Hours of operation

**Education Center hours of operation** — The Mountain Post Training and Education Center's hours are as follows:

- **Counselor Support Center** — Monday through Thursday, 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. and Friday, 11 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

- **Army Learning Center and Basic Skills Classes** — Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m.-noon, closed training holidays.

- **Defense Activity for Nontraditional Education Support and Advanced Personnel Testing** — Monday through Friday, 7:30-11:30 a.m. and 12:15-4:15 p.m., closed training holidays.

- **Basic Skills Education Program/Functional Academic Skills Training** — Monday through Thursday, 1-4 p.m., closed training holidays.

- **eArmyU Testing** — Monday-Friday, 12:15-4:15 p.m., closed training holidays.

- **Military Occupational Specialty Library** — Monday through Friday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., closed training holidays.

- **Legal Assistance hours** — Operating hours for the Legal Assistance Office are Monday-Thursday from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. and Friday from 9-11:30 a.m. and 1-4 p.m.

- **Claims Division hours** — The Claims Division office hours are Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. and closed federal and training holidays. To make a personnel claim, Soldiers must attend a mandatory briefing which is given Mondays and Wednesdays at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. At the briefing, Soldiers must submit a Department of Defense Form 1840/1840R. Submit completed claims Tuesdays and Thursdays.

- **DFAC hours** — Fort Carson dining facilities operate under the following hours:

- **Wolf Inn** — Monday-Friday 7-9 a.m. (breakfast), 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. (lunch) and 4:30-6:30 p.m. (dinner). Weekend hours are 7:30-9 a.m., 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. and 4:30-6 p.m.

- **Indianhead Inn** — Monday-Friday 7-9 a.m. (breakfast), 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. (lunch) and 5-7 p.m. (dinner). Weekend hours are 7:30-9 a.m., 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. and 4:30-6 p.m.

- **Butts Army Airfield** — Monday-Friday 7-9 a.m. (breakfast), 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. (lunch) and 4:30-6:30 p.m. (dinner). This DFAC is closed weekends.

- **Patton Inn** — Monday-Friday 7:30-9 a.m. (breakfast), 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. (lunch) and 5-7 p.m. (dinner). Weekend hours are 7:30-9 a.m., 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. and 4:30-6 p.m.

- **Striker Inn** — Monday-Friday 7-9 a.m. (breakfast), 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. (lunch) and 4:30-6:30 p.m. (dinner). Weekend hours are 7:30-9 a.m., 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. and 4:30-6 p.m.

- **10th SFG** — Monday-Friday 7-9 a.m. (breakfast), 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. (lunch) and 4:30-6 p.m. (dinner). This DFAC is closed weekends.

## Briefings

**Special Forces briefings** — will be held Wednesday at bldg 1217, room 305, from 10-11 a.m., noon-1 p.m. and 5-6 p.m. Soldiers must be E4-E6 from any military occupational specialty; have a general technical score of at least 100; be a U.S. citizen; score 229 or higher on the Army Physical Fitness Test; and pass a Special Forces physical. Call 524-1461 or visit the Web site at [www.bragg.army.mil/sorb](http://www.bragg.army.mil/sorb).

**ACAP briefing** — The Army Career and Alumni Program predeparture briefing is required for all departing service members.

Current ACAP policy requires personnel ending time in service to register one year out and retirees two years out. ACAP predeparture briefings are held Monday through Friday from 7:30-9 a.m. Attendees should report to ACAP by 7:15 a.m. bldg 1118, room 133. Call 526-1002 to schedule the briefing.

**ETS briefing** — ETS briefings for enlisted personnel will be held the first and third Tuesday of each month until further notice. Briefing sign-in begins at 7 a.m. at bldg 1042, room 310.

Briefings will be given on a first-come, first-served basis. Soldiers must be within 120 days of their ETS but must attend the briefing no later than 30 days prior to their ETS or start date of transition leave. Call Orlando James at 526-2240 or e-mail [Orlando.James@carson.army.mil](mailto:Orlando.James@carson.army.mil).

# Carson Soldiers on hand for opening of Iraqi water treatment facility

by Pfc. Paul J. Harris

3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team

**HIBHIB, Iraq** — A water treatment and distribution facility opened June 25 through a joint effort between coalition forces and Iraqi government officials in the township of Hibhib near Baqubah, Iraq.

Members of the civil military operations team from 1-68 Combined Arms Battalion, 3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, and Hibhib Mayor Ali Husan Ali were on hand to cut the ceremonial red ribbon signifying the treatment and distribution facility was operational.

"If you look at the big picture, the Iraqis have a government that has been installed," said Lt. Col. Thomas Fisher, commander, 1-68 CAB.

"They have their national sovereignty. Part of a sovereign nation's responsibility is to take care of its people. (The water treatment and distribution facility) is a great step towards demonstrating to the good citizens here in Khalis Kada the government is looking after their needs," Fisher said.

Hibhib is a township equivalent to a U.S. city. Khalis is a kada which is equivalent to a county and Diyala

Province would be considered a state in the U.S.

The facility was run down and could not support the needs of the people before it was given an upgrade by Iraqi contractors.

Now the facility with 11 kilometers of new piping can provide clean water for up to 4,000 people, said Capt. Brian Soule, civil military operations planner, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1-68 CAB.

The project cost \$130,000 and was paid for by funds from the commanders emergency response program which is funded by the U.S. Congress.

The programs intent is to allow commanders in each area of operations to identify needs of the local people and provide assistance as quickly as possible.

"They have not had their needs met by their government in (the past) 35 years living under a selfish dictatorship," said Soule.

"We have two roles here as an Arm.; we (have) to find the bad guys, then we have to help the good guys ... and 95 percent of the population are the good guys," Soule said.

Before the treatment and distribution

plant was functional, the water would make people sick, said a local Iraqi teenager through an interpreter who was observing the ceremony.

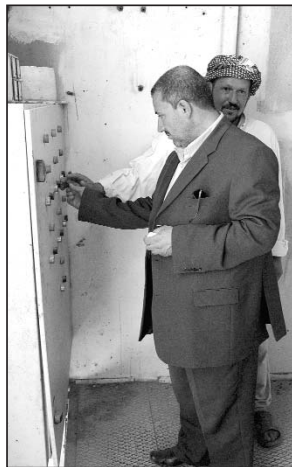
"We would have to boil the water to get it clean. Now, it will be better for cooking and takes away the fear of poisoning. It makes life more comfortable," said the teen.

Hibhib is a place that has seen its share of violence over the past three years since the start of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

As coalition and Iraqi forces root out insurgents and provide security for the area, it enables other agencies and programs to conduct rebuilding projects to provide clean water and electricity to take place, said Sgt. Andrew Leidigh, psychological operations team chief, 321st Psychological Operations Company attached to 1-68 CAB.

The civil military operations team is not finished with just opening the new facilities. It has many more projects in the works in coordination with the local government.

Upcoming projects include installing a sewage system, a hydro-electric facility and the completion of the Baqubah soccer stadium.



*The Mayor of Hibhib, Iraq, Ali Husan Ali prepares to flip the switch on the control panel to start pumping fresh water from the water treatment and distribution installation in the township of Hibhib. The facility was a joint effort between the Iraqi government and coalition forces and it will provide clean water to 4,000 Iraqis.*

# 759th MPs get intoxicated during training

**Story and photo by Sgt. Clint Stein**  
*Mountaineer staff*

The 759th Military Police Battalion conducted a safety training day just as many units conduct safety training, but with a twist.

To help prove certain points about the effects of alcohol and add more awareness for Soldiers in the unit, some Soldiers toasted to a somewhat unorthodox approach to the training.

Six Soldiers arrived to their place of duty June 22, the morning of the training, with the task of consuming alcoholic beverages at an average of two per hour for observation and experimentation. The Soldiers were used as test subjects during the battalion's quarterly safety day training which seemed to have made quite an impression on both the Soldiers who were drinking and others who were not.

Capt. Erin Hopkins, 759th Battalion safety officer, said the purpose of the exercise was to prove a couple of points about alcohol consumption and its effects on the mind and body of an individual. Hopkins said one of the biggest points about the exercise that she wanted to emphasize to the Soldiers is that alcohol affects everybody differently and people never know for sure what those effects may be.

Hopkins said oftentimes people who have been drinking tell themselves they are capable of driving or they aren't drunk.

"Just because a person doesn't feel intoxicated, doesn't mean they're not intoxicated," she said.

Hopkins' point was made a little clearer as the six subjects were given sobriety tests throughout the day.

Some said they felt "fine" and were even able to pass a field sobriety portion of an intoxication test. But, when given a breathalyzer test, they had a blood alcohol content above the legal limit according to Colorado law, which is .08.

How alcohol affects people differently couldn't have been proven any better than when test subjects Sgt. Nick Simmons, 148th MP Company, and Spc. Kevin Lipinski, 59th MP Company, were given field sobriety tests in a conference room filled with other Soldiers from the battalion. Both Simmons and Lipinski consumed close to the same amount of alcoholic beverages in the same amount of time. Although Simmons is smaller than Lipinski, Simmons was able to pass his field sobriety test. Both Soldiers were made to walk a straight line and stand on one foot while counting to 30. Simmons had noticeably more coordination than Lipinski and yet after taking the breathalyzer test, they both had the exact same blood alcohol content of .116.

Simmons said just because a person is bigger, doesn't necessarily mean his tolerance to alcohol is greater. He said people can have different tolerances because they either drink more often and have a higher tolerance, are in different physical condition or their body processes the alcohol differently.

In either case, Hopkins said it doesn't matter how much one's BAC is if it's .08 or higher, because that is all it takes to be considered legally intoxicated.

To help demonstrate what it might feel like for a person to be legally intoxicated and drive, Edgardo Menjivar, prevention coordinator for the Fort Carson Alcohol Substance Abuse Program, aided the battalion



*Spc. Kevin Lipinski, 59th Military Police Company, blows into a breathalyzer to calculate his blood alcohol content and to help prove a point about alcohol consumption during the 759th MP Battalion's safety day training.*

with a drunk-driving simulation. Soldiers were put to the test when they got behind the wheel of a golf cart and were challenged to maneuver their way through a series of street cones in a parking lot using "drunk" goggles. Menjivar had goggles that simulated intoxication from as low as a blood alcohol content

See **Training** on Page 9



## Training

From Page 8

of .05 up to as high as .20, and for night or daytime conditions.

First, Soldiers made their way through the obstacle course without the use of the goggles. Then they tried to negotiate the same course with the goggles on. Menjivar said the results were quite different. Some Soldiers hit almost every cone along the course while wearing the goggles. Many of the Soldiers were able to navigate their way through the obstacle course without hitting any of the cones, but they were also going much slower than they did without the goggles, Menjivar said.

"When people have been drinking and driving for real, they go the same speed or even faster," he said.

Because the Soldiers who were driving the golf carts were sober, they had the presence of mind to realize they needed to slow down and concentrate on the course when they were

wearing the goggles, Menjivar explained. "That's the difference," he said. "People who are intoxicated don't have that presence of mind. And even if they did, their mind and body don't work together."

He said people's reaction times are much slower after they have been drinking and that is what the goggles help represent. "Using these goggles is the closest and safest way to simulate being intoxicated without actually drinking," he said.

By the end of the training day, Hopkins said she thought the Soldiers had learned a great deal from both the Soldiers who were used as test subjects and the goggles. She said her goal when organizing the training day was to come up with a more creative way to conduct safety training and was pleased with how the Soldiers responded.

Hopkins said the Soldiers seemed to have enjoyed the training and the most important part is, "they will remember it."

## Bearcat

From Page 1

truck. It is 90 inches wide, 20 feet long and has a 17 foot turning radius. The body of the vehicle is heavily armored and has the capacity of 12 personnel, including driver and front passenger. There is an additional 500 pound blast plate that can be added to the undercarriage for extra protection. It has a rail to stand on with a hand rail for another 10 personnel on the outside and 10-12 personnel can be carried on the roof as well.

It has a turret which can be used with a remote controlled weapon or a Soldier can operate a standard weapon by standing up in the vehicle. The turret is also used to enter or exit the vehicle through the roof.

There are four remote-controlled lights, which

can be controlled from the inside or from a nearby remote location.

There are 10 gun ports on the sides and at the rear, as well as a two-way intercom/public address system. It runs on a 12-volt-system but has the capability to provide 24-volts for the military Single Channel Ground and Airborne Radio System. It has air conditioning for front and rear passenger comfort.



**Bearcat**

# COMMUNITY

## A Yankee Doodle Dandy of a celebration

by **Heather McCann**,  
Directorate of Morale,  
Welfare and Recreation

It's your 230th birthday. What do you do?

Boston? Been there.

Washington, D.C.? Done that.

Even if, like Uncle Sam, you think you've seen it all, you won't want to miss Fort Carson's "The Fourth on the Third — an Independence Day Celebration." What better way to say "Happy Birthday America!" than with the Soldiers and families of the Mountain Post?

DMWR Community Events Division Chief Ann Edinger said holding the festivities a day early makes sense from several standpoints. "Independence Day comes early to our troops stationed overseas," explained Edinger. "This way, we get to celebrate the same day as our Soldiers in Iraq. Also, folks will be able to see all Fort Carson has to offer on July third, and they'll still have time to enjoy other activities in the Colorado Springs area the next day."

This year's event has expanded to encompass Areas One and Two of Ironhorse Park. There are two stages for entertainment. Edinger said the main stage will focus on family-friendly live music, beginning with a "Tribute to Freedom" concert performed by the 451st Army Band.

"We're quite honored to have them here with us on this very special date," said Edinger. "We know they get many, many requests to perform.

The 451st is a Reserve-component band from St. Paul, Minn. They're considered one of the top military bands in the United States."

Chief Warrant Officer Dan Eckhoff commands the 451st Army Band. "This concert will feature a wide range of enjoyable music," said Eckhoff. "We are proud to represent our veterans and armed forces personnel who are serving our country and protecting freedom both at home and abroad. We are looking forward to performing for a large and enthusiastic audience at Fort Carson."

Other main stage headliners include Sixteen 61, a classic rock band, S.O.S. — Shades of Soul, which focuses on the Motown Sound and hits from the '70s and '80s, and the Last Band on Earth, which plays hits from the '90s.

The children's stage spotlights the always inventive Manitou Arts Theater Performers, lead by Jim Jackson.

"Jim always brings something new and wonderful to the stage," said Edinger. "There will be stilt walkers, jugglers, unicyclists, clowns; even a contortion act!"

Also appearing on the "Little Stage" is Michael Stanwood, who plays musical instruments from all over the world. Stanwood specializes in engaging young audience members by taking an interactive approach to children's music.

Both adults and little people alike will be able to test their intestinal mettle at a "hot wings" eating contest. "There'll be 400 pounds of chicken wings on hand,"

said Edinger. "Of course, the wings for the kids' contest won't be quite as hot as the wings for the grown-ups."

Main stage events this year will take place beneath a large canopy. This, said Edinger, will give folks an opportunity to dodge the sun for a while before heading out again to sample a wide variety of available food and beverage, and take in all the day has to offer.

"I'm especially excited about a couple of things this year," said Edinger. "One is the addition of the NBA 'Slam Jam' to the lineup. The 'Slam Jam,' sponsored by the United Services Organization, is such a great fit. Picture a basketball 'festival' instead of a 'tournament.' You don't have to have any basketball skills to participate. It's just going to be terrific!"

The NBA "Slam Jam" encompasses a 22,000 square-foot area filled with interactive themes such as "Measure Up," which allows you to compare your height with the likes of Shaquille O'Neal. Hall of Fame forward Rick Barry and former Denver Nuggets General Manager Kiki Vandeweghe will make an appearance. You'll also have an opportunity to have a picture taken with the NBA Championship Trophy.

In addition to the NBA "Slam Jam," the kids will be kept busy with DMWR sponsored activities ranging from "make and take crafts" to strength competitions and miniature golf. After they try their hand at paint ball target shooting, they can experience "Salto," a giant,

trampoline/bungee-cord contraption that can handle multiple jumpers simultaneously.

Edinger also is excited to welcome the local Al Kaly Shrine Mule Team to the event. "The mule team actually will be conducting a flag demonstration, featuring 63 different versions of 'Old Glory,'" said Edinger. "They also are setting up a gantlet for our motorcyclists, which include the American Legion Riders, the Patriot Guard and Rolling Thunder."

According to Edinger, the motorcyclists will be transporting to the main stage the official event flag, which was flown over the compound in Balad, Iraq. "The flag was flown on Memorial Day," said Edinger. "We're still ironing out the details of how it will arrive on the installation. Let's just say we're hoping for an impressive entrance!"

Of course, no Independence Day celebration is complete without fireworks. "This show will be awesome!" she promised. "It's completely computerized and fully choreographed to music. We have an improved sound system this year, so the crowd will be able to hear the music from anywhere in Areas One and Two."

The gates to Ironhorse Park open at 4 p.m., with fireworks scheduled for 9:30 p.m. The event is free and open to the public. Be sure to remember your lawn chairs, blankets and sunscreen. Because of current fire restrictions, only gas grills will be permitted in the park. For more information, contact DMWR Community Events at 526-4494.

## Other Fourth of July activities

### Sky Sox vs. Portland

7:05 p.m. Monday, followed by fireworks at Security Service Field. Tickets are \$7-\$9.

### Buckskin Joe

celebrates an old-fashioned Independence Day Tuesday with family games, etc. Buckskin Joe is west of Cañon City on the road to Royal Gorge Bridge; call (719) 275-5149.

### The 84th Race to the Clouds

on Pikes Peak Highway is Saturday, with half-price tickets for military. Go to [www.ppihc.com](http://www.ppihc.com) or call (866) 464-2626. Tickets are sold on race day at the Pikes Peak Highway toll road entrance. The toll road opens at 4 a.m. Saturday for fans, who must be in place before the 9 a.m. race start.

### A free fan fest

is 5-10 p.m. on Tejon Street downtown today, with a Red Bull TNT freestyle motocross show.

### "Fabulous Fourth"

is celebrated in Memorial Park at 7 p.m. Tuesday. The Colorado Springs Philharmonic will be joined by the U.S. Army Field Band and Soldiers Chorus.

### An old fashioned Independence Day

is celebrated at Rock Ledge Ranch Tuesday, with free admission for military with identification. There are old-fashioned games, hot dogs, ice cream, wagon rides, a Buffalo Soldiers' drill, and a brass band — 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Regular admission is \$2-\$6.

### The Air Force Academy

celebrates Independence Day with music by Blue Steel, from 7-9:20 p.m. Tuesday, and if fire conditions permit, fireworks will be at 9:20 p.m. This event is only open to Department of Defense identification cardholders and their guests, who should use the north gate entrance at Exit 156-B off Interstate 25. Fireworks can be viewed from the cadet athletic fields.

### Royal Gorge Bridge

west of Cañon City, has live entertainment Saturday through Tuesday.

### The Rocky Mountain Dinosaur Resource Center

in Woodland Park has half-price admission with military identification July 3-5. Open 9 a.m.-6 p.m.

### The Cross-country Classic Car Race

which started in Philadelphia will make an overnight stop Saturday at 6 p.m. on "B" Street at the Union Depot in downtown Pueblo. Pueblo citizens will welcome the 100 classic cars with music, food and fun in the historic avenue district.

### The 3rd Annual Rollin' on the Riverwalk Concert

is in the historic district in downtown Pueblo Saturday, featuring "Yesterday — a Tribute to the Beatles" and the Pueblo Symphony at 7:30 p.m. Food and boat rides are available beginning at 3:30 p.m.

# Community briefs

## Miscellaneous

**Veterinary Treatment Facility** — Beginning Saturday, the Pikes Peak Humane Society will no longer accept stray animals from the Fort Carson Veterinary Treatment Facility. This means the VTF will be forced to euthanize pets not claimed after three working days. Fort Carson residents must microchip their pets, according to post regulations. To update existing microchip contact information call Home Again at (866) 738-4324 or Avida at (800) 366-2843. All other microchips are not readable by the VTF. Call the clinic at 526-3803 for more information.

An after-hours clinic for microchipping will be held July 17 from 6-8 p.m. at the VTF. This is a walk-in clinic so no appointments are required. No other services will be available. Call 526-3803 for details.

**Bonfils blood drive** — Fort Carson hosts a blood drive Sunday from noon-4 p.m. at the Bonfils bus in the Main Post Exchange parking lot. Contact Bonfils Blood Center at (800) 750-4483, option 1, or e-mail [cheryl\\_wren@bonfils.org](mailto:cheryl_wren@bonfils.org) to schedule a donation. Walk-ins are accepted but appointments take priority.

**Veterans' Home Run** — Pikes Peak Road Runners will host its first Computer Sciences Corporation Veterans' Home Run Sunday at 7 a.m. in Memorial Park (Prospect Lake). The race is being held to bring awareness and support to the Colorado Veterans Coalition's Crawford House. This five-kilometer run/three-kilometer walk is open to all. Registration forms can be found at local running stores. The Colorado Veterans' Coalition is a Colorado Springs-based, nonprofit organization that operates the Crawford House to serve southern Colorado veterans who are struggling with serious life issues by providing them a supportive living environment.

**Cheyenne Mountain Lions Club** — The Cheyenne Mountain Lions Club hosts its annual picnic and fundraiser July 8 at Fountain Creek Regional Park, Highway 85/87 and Duckwood Lane. Cost for adults is \$20, children 4-12 is \$10. Ticket sales begin at 3 p.m., dinner at 5:30 p.m. and the show begins at 6:30 p.m. For ticket information call Bill Galvan at 597-4905 or 574-4832, extension 37.

**National Night Out** — National Night Out is also known as American's Night Out Against Crime. This year's event will be held Aug. 1 at the Main Post Exchange parking lot. NNO is designed to heighten crime and drug prevention awareness and strengthen the spirit of neighborhoods and community partnerships. Come join Army Community Service and other organizations on post as they celebrate NNO. For details call 526-4590.

**Career fair for veterans** — The Recruit Military Career Fair is a free event for veterans, transitioning military personnel, National Guard members, Reservists and their spouses. Job seekers need not preregister but bring 12 copies of their resume to the event. The career fair is July 12 from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at Wings Over the Rockies Air and Space Museum in Denver.

**Celebrate Guam Liberation Day** — The Chamorro Community of Colorado celebrates the 62nd anniversary of Guam's Liberation Day July 22 at 11 a.m. at John Metcalfe Park in Fountain. A potluck lunch will be held to commemorate the occasion in honor of the men and women of the armed forces. R.S.V.P. no later than July 14 by calling 209-2364, 471-9378 or e-mail [slatoe@yahoo.com](mailto:slatoe@yahoo.com).

**Colorado Springs Memory Walk** — The Colorado Springs Memory Walk is a pledge event that raises money to support programs and services

of the Alzheimer's Association, Rocky Mountain Chapter. It benefits persons with Alzheimer's disease, their family members and caregivers. The event is a five-kilometer walk held Sept. 9 at Antlers Park. Teams are forming now. Register by phone or online at 266-8773 or [www.coloradomemorywalk.org](http://www.coloradomemorywalk.org).

**Hypertension class** — Do you have high blood pressure? Do you want to lower your risk of heart disease? A hypertension class is presented every other Thursday from 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. in the Wellness Center, bldg 1526. To register or for more information call 526-7022. The class is presented by Disease Management and Nutrition Care.

**Career fair** — The Employment Readiness Program, Army Community Service, is hosting a career fair in partnership with local companies at the Special Events Center, bldg 1829, July 7 from 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m. The fair will focus on assisting military spouses, family members, transitioning service members, National Guard members, Reservists and retirees in finding employment. Bring your resume. For details contact ACS at 526-4590/0452.

**CASA needs volunteers** — Court Appointed Special Attorney is a nonprofit organization that provides a volunteer's voice in court for children who are victims of abuse, neglect or domestic conflict and promotes community awareness of these issues. If you'd like to make a difference in a child's life, the Supervised Exchange and Parenting Time Program may be ideal for you. The SEPT volunteers oversee court-ordered parenting time and protect children from witnessing parental disputes when they're being exchanged from one parent to another. If you are over 18, have no felony convictions and can devote seven-12 hours per month, contact CASA at 447-9898, extension 1020, or e-mail [reginar@casappr.org](mailto:reginar@casappr.org).

**Women's Equality Day workshop** — Fort Carson hosts a Women's Equality Day workshop Aug. 14 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Elkhorn Conference Center, bldg 7300. Cost is \$13 per person and includes lunch. A free information fair will be held throughout the day. R.S.V.P. by Aug. 7 by contacting Barbara Dowling or Patricia Rosas at 526-0864 or 526-5818.

**Burn ban in effect** — Due to the dry weather conditions Garrison Commander Col. Michael Resty Jr. has imposed a burn ban. Residents should refrain from using all open-flame charcoal or wood cooking, barbecue and heating devices that are not allowed on public property (parks and open spaces). This ban does not restrict cooking within family housing areas but residents are asked to use care when doing so. For more information call the Fire Prevention Branch, Fire and Emergency Services, at 526-2679.

**Brown Road closure** — Brown Road will be closed until Aug. 1. Brown Road currently only supports vehicles under 10,000 pounds. It is being upgraded to support increased vehicle loads to service Butts Army Airfield and facilities along Wilderness Road. Motorists may experience delays and disruptions along the following routes as work begins on heavy bridge facilities: Titus Boulevard between Sheridan and Barkley avenues; Specker Avenue between Khe Sahn Street and Magrath Avenue; and Butts Road between Specker Avenue and Bad Toelz Road. For more information on road closures contact Rick Orphan at 526-9267 or Maj. John Hudson at 526-4974.

**Teller County Fire Chief's Open Golf Tourney** — Teller County Fire Department hosts a golf tournament Aug. 3 at Cheyenne Shadows Golf Course at Fort Carson. Deadline for registration is July 25. All proceeds go to the Teller County Fire Chief's Association for training and to help build

**Army Community Service**  
Family Readiness Center, Bldg 1526  
TEL: (719) 526-4590



## FORT CARSON

# 2006 YARD SALES

1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month (April thru December)  
8:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. / Installation Wide

July 1 and 15

August 5 and 19

September 2 and 16

October 7 and 21

November 4 and 18

December 2 and 16

Yard sales are organized and conducted by the Installation Mayoral Program, the DPW Housing Liaison office and the GMH Military Family Housing office with the assistance of the Military Police. Yard sales on the installation can only be conducted on the above specified dates. Citations are issued for not adhering to the dates and guidelines. Make up days (inclement weather) are the Saturday following a regularly scheduled date. Single soldiers and military families (active or retired) which reside off the installation can also participate by setting up in the parking lot of Beacon Elementary School. Installation residents can setup in front of their homes. For more information, call (719) 526-4590.

a new hospital in Woodland Park. Cost for single players is \$120, for a foursome is \$480. There will be raffles and prizes including a motorcycle from Biker's Dreams in Colorado Springs, golf clubs and more. For registration call Dianna Taylor at (303) 907-0049 or (719) 484-0679.

**Post Traumatic Stress help** — "LZ Calvary" is a small group Bible study and support group for veterans experiencing the effects of post traumatic stress disorder. Join a group of veterans who are experienced in combat-related problems and who have successfully dealt with the memories and effects of combat as we work through PTSD-related problems through the study of God's word, fellowship and group discussion. Meetings are held Mondays at 10 a.m. at Grace Brethren Church, 2975 Jet Wing Drive. Call Robert P. Schaffer at 390-8096 or 510-6009 for more information.

**Alcoholics Anonymous** — Alcoholics Anonymous meetings are held at Soldiers' Memorial Chapel Wednesdays at 7 p.m. For more information call 322-9766.

**Claims against the estate** — Anyone with claims against or indebtedness to the estate of Cpl. Brock L. Bucklin, deceased, should contact 1st Lt. Nathaniel Hagen at 330-3835.

• Anyone with claims against the estate of or indebtedness to Spc. Luis D. Santos, deceased, should contact 1st Lt. Jessica Gutierrez at 338-9060.

• Anyone with claims against the estate of or indebtedness to Pfc. Timothy J. Madison, deceased, should contact 2nd Lt. Mark Miller at 524-5740.



# Remember to thank our Soldiers this Tuesday

**Chap. (Lt. Col.) David Pollok**

*Medical Department Activity*

One percent of the nation's population is actively serving in the military. Only 3 percent of the nation's population has ever served in the military. Very few provide so much for so many in our nation. Without the few who have served and are now serving in the military, our nation and many other nations would not be able to enjoy the freedoms and privileges that distinguish America from all other nations in the world. This Independence Day thank those who have and are serving now for their loyalty, patriotism and sacrifices made to ensure our continued safety and continued style of living. Also thank their families for their support and sacrifices given over the years.

Pay tribute to those military members who have paid the ultimate price and given their lives, while in active service, protecting us against all enemies foreign and domestic. We miss each and every service member and wish they could all be with us to help celebrate the nation we all love and cherish: the United States of America. We are all forever indebted to those whose blood was shed from the 1770s to today. The cost of freedom has always been great and will continue to be expensive — for ultimately the final payment is always in blood.

## JULY 4 POEM

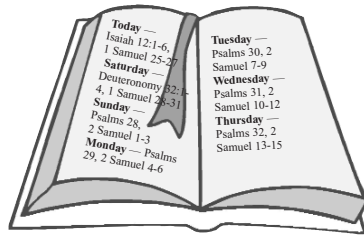
*Author unknown*

There is a day when we know we are free  
We can live as we want, yes you and me.  
But let us remember, that a price had been paid  
Many who fought for us lay in an unknown grave ...

So let's stay safe and enjoy this day with friends,  
Knowing that freedom, for us, has no ends.  
Smile at the flag as it hangs there with pride  
We, who are free, never having to hide.  
Bring it in with a bang and yell and a shout  
But remember to put all those camp fires out.  
Happy birthday, America!

July 4 is a tremendous day of anticipation when we stop and celebrate our nation's uniqueness and might. We are set apart by our vision of religious freedom, our concepts of a government by the people, for the people and of the people and our moral stand as defenders of the helpless and oppressed throughout the world. These ideals (a Judeo-Christian heritage) are foundational to our nation and are woven into the character of who we are as Americans. As you celebrate the Fourth of July this year, be thankful for your blessing of freedom and be proud you are an American.

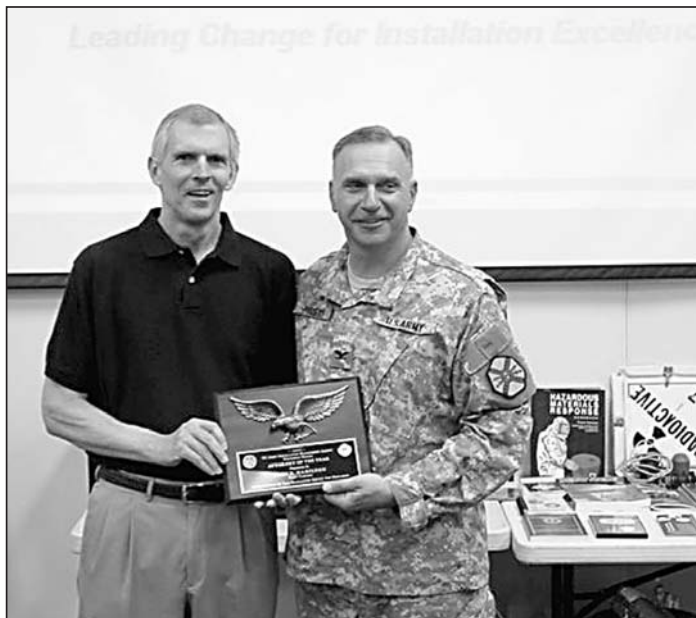
*A Prayer: O God, bless America with your goodness. Give our leaders wisdom, courage and strong global support in the war on terrorism. Comfort our families who mourn the loss of their Soldier. Heal our nation of all its wounds. Amen.*



## Chapel Schedule

ROMAN CATHOLIC			
Day	Time	Service	Contact Person
Mon., Wed., Fri.	noon	Mass	Fr. Gagliardo/526-7412
Tues., Thurs.	noon	Mass	Chap. Goellen/526-5769
Saturday	3 p.m.	Mass	Chap. Goellen/526-5769
Sunday	9:15 a.m.	Mass	Chap. Goellen/526-5769
Sunday	10:30 a.m.	CRE	Pat Tracy/524-2458
Sunday	11 a.m.	Mass	Fr. Gagliardo/576-7412
Sunday	11 a.m.	Mass	Chap. Goellen/526-5769
Tuesday	7 p.m.	RCIA	Pat Tracy/524-2458
Saturday	4 p.m.	Reconciliation	Chap. Goellen/526-5769
PROTESTANT			
Sunday	9 a.m.	Protestant	Chap. Carter/526-7386
Sunday	9 a.m.	Protestant	Chap. Meeker/526-3711
Sunday	11 a.m.	Protestant	Chap. Deppmeier/526-8011
Sunday	11 a.m.	Prot. Gospel	Chap. Borden/526-4206
Sunday	9:30 a.m.	Sun. School	Chap. Borden/526-4206
Sunday	9:30 a.m.	Sun. School	Dr. Schreck/526-5626
Tuesday	9 a.m.	PWOC	Chap. Deppmeier/526-8011
Sunday	11 a.m.	Contemporary	Chap. Zusi/526-8890
Tuesday	7 p.m.	PWOC	Ms. Schreck/231-9511
Sunday	9 a.m.	Samoan	Chap. Pies/526-3888
JEWISH			
For information and a schedule of Jewish Sabbath services, call the U.S. Air Force Academy Cadet Chapel at 333-2626.			
WICCA			
Monday	6:30 p.m.	bdg 4800, corner of Harr and O'Connell	Rhonda Helfrich/338-9464
NATIVE AMERICAN SWEATLODGE			
Native American Sweatlodge ceremonies (He Ska Akicita Inipi) are offered to military dependents and Department of Defense personnel for traditional prayer and purification. Fasting before the ceremony is recommended and refreshments are offered following the ceremony. Please call the following for information and directions: Michael Dunning 382-5331 or 330-9537, or Zoe Goodshimket 442-0929.			





Courtesy photo

## Attorney of the year

Garrison Commander Col. Michael Resty Jr. presents Russ Hamilton with the Installation Management Agency Northwest Region Attorney of the Year award Tuesday. Hamilton works at the Fort Carson Office of the Staff Judge Advocate.

## New contractor assumes base ops, maintenance function Saturday

### Contracting Office

Fort Carson will soon have a new base operations and maintenance contract to support the Directorate of Public Works. KIRA, Inc., will replace LB&B, which has held this contract since 1999. KIRA and its subcontractor, CSC, are combining as the Fort Carson Support Services Team. The FCSS Team has been undergoing a phase-in since June 1 and will assume full responsibility July 1.

"The FCSS Team is very excited about this opportunity to join forces with the DPW and their staff in providing nothing less than outstanding support of the men and women that serve our nation," said Mike Bray, senior vice president of KIRA and current phase-in manager. "Our mission is taking care of Soldiers, and that is exactly

what we intend to do." The FCSS Team will be seen around post providing support in the areas of roads and grounds, facility maintenance, utility and other services. In all, the FCSS Team will employ more than 200 people, many of whom may be workers formerly employed by LB&B.

KIRA representatives say that its entire team is excited at the opportunity to provide the Fort Carson community nothing less than the outstanding service they deserve.

Key phone numbers for work order submittal will not change.

For more information on the new contractor and its team, you can visit [www.fortcarsonsupportservices.com](http://www.fortcarsonsupportservices.com) to see updates on its progress and effort to assume responsibilities as the new operations and maintenance contractor.

# 'Visions of Valor' on display at EACH

**Story and photo by Master  
Sgt. Dennis E. Beebe**

*Mountaineer staff*

*"The Medal of Honor is the highest distinction for Military Valor in the United States. Awarded to common individuals who responded with uncommon courage and selfless sacrifice, the Medal of Honor recipients are emblematic of*

*America's courage and strength."  
— From the letter on display  
with the photographs located outside  
Healer Chapel at Evans Army  
Community Hospital*

Evans Army Community Hospital is honoring Medal of Honor recipients with a photo display of one-third of 100 portraits of Medal of Honor recipients displayed outside

Healer Chapel until July 14. Two other displays of the remaining photos are touring different installations around the country.

The photos are by Nicholas Del Calzo. A complete set of the 100 portraits is on display at the Pentagon.

Guest speakers for the June 21 dedication were two Medal of Honor recipients from the Vietnam War era: Command Sgt. Maj. (retired) Gary Littrell and Navy Lt. (retired) Thomas Norris. Both were assigned to Special Forces units during the Vietnam War.

Littrell spoke of another Medal of Honor recipient, Spc. Donald W. Evans, for whom the hospital is named. He related how much he had in common with Evans: they had joined the Army at the same station in Los Angeles and Fort Carson was a duty station they had in common. Littrell retired from Fort Carson.

Lt. Col. Caron Wilbur, chief of Acute Care Nursing and chief nurse of all the patient care wards, took the two men around the hospital where they met with Soldiers who are recuperating from wounds received in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom.

"I cannot believe how humble

and modest these men are about their accomplishments," she said. "They really wanted to meet these injured Soldiers and hear their stories. They impressed me that they did not want the attention to be all on them, even though all the Soldiers they spoke to seemed to be in awe, almost intimidated at first."

The two men also visited retired Sgt. 1st Class Henry Wonette, an 80 year-old veteran of three wars — World War II, Korea and Vietnam — who is presently at the hospital.

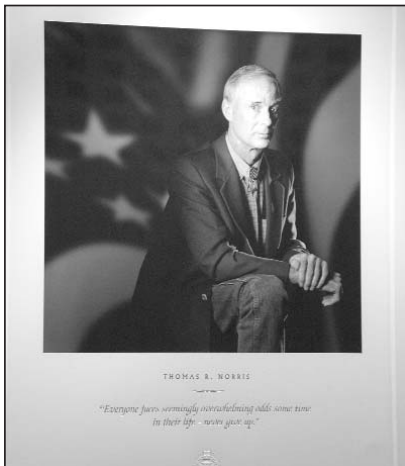
"They were very happy to meet him and said that they were impressed with him and his history," Wilbur said.

After the visit to the injured Soldiers, Littrell and Norris had lunch with 7th Infantry Division Soldiers in the hospital dining facility.

"The Medal of Honor recipients showed great interest in the Soldiers' way of life and were impressed (with) how much the Army had changed since their time in service. They remember long lines for everything and a 'hurry-up-and-wait' mentality. They were assured that it still happens but it does not seem as bad as it used to be," Wilbur said.

The photo display is sponsored by Triwest Healthcare Alliance.

*Medal of Honor  
recipient Navy Lt.  
(retired) Thomas  
Norris' portrait is on  
display at Evans  
Army Community  
Hospital outside  
Healer Chapel.  
The display will be  
available to the Fort  
Carson community  
through July 14.*



## Well-maintained training lands:

# A piece of the readiness puzzle

by Susan C. Galentine

*Directorate of Environmental Compliance and Management*

Part of the “equipment” needed to train is the land used to train upon. Equipment requires maintenance and care to perform up to standards and so does the land. Sustaining land for training purposes encompasses myriad coordinated efforts to ensure the safety of Soldiers and compliance with various local and state regulations, and federal statutes.

Fort Carson has long been a proactive steward of the environment while ensuring a training-ready posture at its ranges and at the Piñon Canyon Maneuver Site in southeastern Colorado. These lands are not static — they contain watersheds, wetlands, wildlife, plant species and cultural/historic resources that require consideration while simultaneously providing the realistic training environment needed for the Army to prepare for combat.

Two examples of Fort Carson’s established programs that facilitate training capability are the Directorate of Environmental Compliance and Management’s Noxious Weed and Cultural Resources Programs.

While at first glance it seems improbable that a plant poses a threat to the ability to train, noxious weeds grow at a rate and density that can create numerous problems, including the fact that laws

strictly regulate the control and elimination of noxious weed species.

Despite drought conditions, noxious, nonnative weeds are prevailing on Fort Carson and at PCMS, growing along certain drainage ditches and roadsides and choking off beneficial plant life.

“While it may not seem that a few weeds are important to training, weeds increase the risk of fire danger and fires can halt training,” explained Caron Rifici, DECAM’s Noxious Weed manager. “Noxious weeds are also a source of erosion when the native plant communities are invaded by these plants. Erosion can create deep gullies and flooding problems across the landscape making additional and sometimes unseen hazards for our troops training in the field.”

Fort Carson has implemented what might be considered unusual strategies to rid installation lands of noxious weeds. For the past 10 years, the DECAM has taken an aggressive stance against these invasive plants. Using every means possible, including plant-eating insects and weed-eating goats, the DECAM effectively battles their spread, while trying to avoid the use of chemical controls harmful to humans and the environment.

Prescribed fires are another tool used to reduce fire fuel (dry vegetation) loads caused by heavy weed infestations. Some of the prescribed burn areas are then re-seeded with species that will compete and suppress weed infestations.

“It is important to know that no weed control method is permanent and that is why weed control is usually talked about in terms of being controlled versus eradicated,” Rifici explained. “All methods deal with weakening the plant to a point that it can be suppressed or controlled to a level that is acceptable.”

While the condition of the land is critical in terms of training, so can be what lies below the surface. Fort Carson and PCMS lands had a rich history long before Fort Carson was built and carry the potential for buried cultural resources. Cultural resources include historic and prehistoric archaeological sites, historic properties, and associated structures and artifacts from previous historical periods.

The Cultural Resources Program’s mission is to continuously inventory Fort Carson and PCMS lands to identify resources and facilitate opening additional training areas. “As caretakers of our nation’s heritage resources, the program’s objectives stress preservation over mitigation, protection over destruction, while ensuring the completion of Fort Carson’s military mission; a balance that takes a great deal of cooperation and planning to achieve,” said Pamela Cowen, the DECAM Cultural Resources manager.

In compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act, archaeological surveys have been

## Readiness

From Page 17

conducted on approximately 80 percent of Fort Carson and nearly 75 percent of the PCMS, said Cowen.

From fiscal 2004 through fiscal 2006, a total of 41,295 acres have been inventoried at both sites, which paved the way for the construction of six small arms ranges, the improvement of a secondary supply route, the creation of six forward operating bases, the construction of a maneuver live fire range, and additional heavy maneuver acreage in preparation for increased training rotations.

"By working closely with the military trainers and the Directorate of Public Works planners, we are able to protect resources significant to the history of Fort Carson, the region and the state in order to preserve this rich historical value for future generations," said Cowen.

Noxious weeds and cultural resources are just two sensitive areas factored in to managing military lands, but the objective always in sight for these programs is to ensure the land remains in prime condition for training.

For more information about sustaining training ranges, call the DECAM sustainability planner at 526-9777.

# GI Bill turns 62

**by Julie Cupernall**  
*Army News Service*

**WASHINGTON** — The first GI Bill was signed into law 62 years ago by President Franklin D. Roosevelt on June 22, 1944, as an incentive for World War II veterans. Since then, billions of dollars have been invested to help millions of veterans realize their goals of higher education and training.

"The significance of the GI Bill is that it gives our military an edge in filling our ranks with people who have goals of bettering themselves," said Jerome Pionk, chief of the Incentives and Budget Branch, military personnel management directorate.

Numerous benefit packages have been offered through the GI Bill since its inception — all common in that they focused on furthering education or trade skills for veterans. Today's version, the Montgomery GI Bill, was signed into law in 1984, and offers

Soldiers the option of buying into the program during their first year of service.

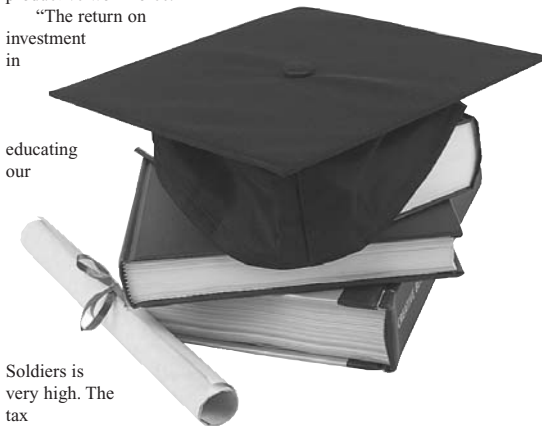
Although the GI Bill represents billions of dollars spent, the nation has cashed in a far larger return on investment through an increased tax base and more productive work force.

"The return on investment in

educating our

dollars received from someone with higher education levels bolsters our economy," Pionk said.

More than 76 percent of eligible Soldiers use the MGIB after separation from the Army.



Soldiers is very high. The tax



# Museum notes Pueblo's black history

**Story and photo by Nel Lampe**

*Mountaineer staff*

There's a museum with an unusual beginning in Pueblo, just off Interstate 25, at 2713 N. Grand Ave.

From 1884 to 1963 the building served as a colored orphanage and old folks home, housing up to 60 people at a time.

Ruth Steele, founder and chief executive officer of the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Museum, said the museum's mission is to preserve, protect and interpret the rich heritage of the black community, with a focus on the city, county, state and nation.

Steele said that laws and culture had changed, causing the orphanage to close down in 1963. The building was boarded up and unoccupied for several years, before the property's owner, E.M. Christmas, donated the building to become a museum. The Negro Federated Women's Clubs took on the project.

"The women washed, ironed sewed, cooked and made jelly (to sell)" to raise money for the project. The museum was opened to the public in 1997.

The building itself is two houses on one foundation, with hallways connecting the two halves. One house was designated for the women and girls; men and boys lived in the other half.

A small, sparsely equipped kitchen served the orphanage with a dining table that seated 10 people. Occupants ate in shifts or some children sat on the floor to eat, Steele said.

The matron's room served as the quarters for the woman who ran the facility. It's furnished with a Victorian-era bed and dresser which served the 25 matrons who ran the orphanage/old

folks home during its operation.

Steele said that old slaves came to Pueblo from different states and lived in the house on Grand Avenue. One man, Harry Neeley, came from Kansas to live in the house and stayed for 50 years.

A room in the museum is devoted to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Several photographs of King and his wife Coretta Scott King are in the room. There's also a replica of the casket in which King's body was taken from Memphis, Tenn., back to Alabama. Several wreaths are in the room.

There's also information about Rosa Parks displayed in the museum. A recent addition to the museum is a bus like the one Parks rode in Montgomery, Ala., Dec. 1, 1955, in which she refused to move to the back of the bus, triggering the Montgomery Bus Boycott.

Ironically, the Pueblo Department of Transportation used the same model buses in its transportation system. In April, the city of Pueblo transferred one of its old buses to the museum to be displayed for historical purposes. Steele said the museum will have the bus restored and it will be displayed on museum grounds. Donations are being accepted for the bus restoration.

About 80 percent of the furnishings are original to the building, which was named the Lincoln Home in 1935, to honor President Abraham Lincoln.

Other photographs and memorabilia are devoted to Buffalo Soldiers, including Cathy Williams, who served with the Buffalo Soldiers disguised as a man until her identity

was discovered. After her discharge she came to Pueblo to help her mother run the orphan home.

Tuskegee Airmen are honored in the memory room, including Richard Biffle, who was from Pueblo.

Also on the grounds is a statue depicting King and Emmett Till, the 14-year-old boy who was murdered in Mississippi in 1955. The statue previously stood in Denver's Civic Park until it was donated to the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Museum in 2002.

The museum is open from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Tuesday through Friday. Admission is \$6.

The museum is a 1713 N. Grand Ave in Pueblo. Take I-25 south to the 29th Street Exit and go to Greenwood and take a left. At 28th Street, take a left and go about two blocks, taking a right on Grand. The Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Museum is at 2713 N. Grand Ave. The phone number is (719) 253-1015.



*A Pueblo museum honors Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Rosa Parks.*



## Community Policing



### Department of the Army Police



**Name:** Cpl. Antonio Smith

**Experience:** Cpl. Antonio Smith has been assigned to the Office of the Provost Marshal, Department of the Army civilian police since February 2004. Smith also serves as a shift patrol supervisor for both DA officers and military police

**Quote:** "You can't please all the people all the time, just some of the people some of the time!"

### Military Police

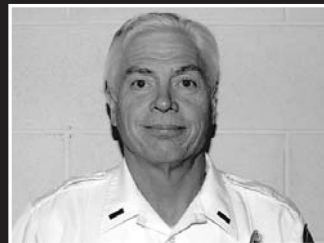


**Name:** Staff Sgt. Brian Vance

**Experience:** Staff Sgt. Brian Vance arrived to Fort Carson in July 2002 and currently is assigned to the 984th Military Police Company. Vance's deployments include Honduras, Panama, Kosovo, Guantanamo Bay and Operation Iraqi Freedom 2.

**Quote:** "No matter what you do, in the end you get the same as everyone else."

### Alutiiq-Wackenhut Security Services

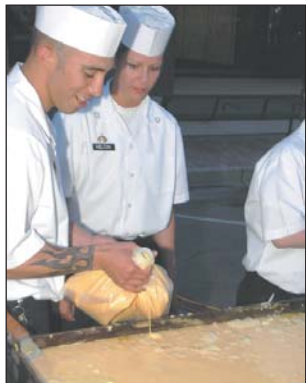


**Name:** Lt. Brian Miller

**Experience:** Lt. Brian Miller served four years with the Air Force and retired after 17 years as a deputy sheriff for Dade County, Fla. He's served 24 months with Alutiiq-Wackenhut Security Services as lieutenant.

**Quote:** "Worry about that which you have control over."





Soldiers of the 984th Military Police Company prepare large quantities of eggs for the 46th annual Street breakfast held in downtown Colorado Springs.



A crowd of 9,000 people attended the 46th annual street breakfast held in downtown Colorado Springs. Straw bales provided seating for diners who enjoyed pancakes and entertainment.

# pancake Breakfast

## Fort Carson Soldiers serve more than 9,000



Col. Scott Lang, commander of the 43rd Area Support Group, whose Soldiers and equipment are involved in the 46th annual Street breakfast held in downtown Colorado Springs, is interviewed by Zach Thaxton and Jennifer Fullerton, of KRDO, Channel 13, Colorado Springs.



The Fort Carson Mounted Color Guard leads the Pike Peak Range Riders and Maj. Gen. Robert W. Mixon Jr., Fort Carson and 7th Infantry Division commander, as the riders begin the range ride.

by Nel Lampe  
Mountaineer staff

A pancake breakfast served downtown in the middle of Pikes Peak Avenue is a Colorado Springs tradition. Fort Carson Soldiers cooking those pancakes is also a tradition.

For 46 years Soldiers have gotten up very early on the designated day and set up field kitchens on Pikes Peak Avenue downtown. But it's more than just pancakes — it's syrup, scrambled eggs, coffee and fun.

Thousands of citizens show up for breakfast. For many, it's a family tradition, dating back two or three generations. Some people wear western clothing to get in the mood. Seating is on straw bales, and western music

by "Chute Nine" contributes to the Old West flavor.

The breakfast, sponsored by Centennial Sertoma Club and the Range Riders, kicks off the rodeo season and the "Range Ride." Breakfast proceeds go to Fort Carson and local charities.

The Range Riders are local citizens who saddle up for a ride around the Pikes Peak area, continuing a 57-year tradition of publicizing the Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo on horseback. One-hundred seventy Range

Riders participated in the five-day ride.

This year, Maj. Gen. Robert W. Mixon Jr., commanding general of Fort Carson and 7th Infantry Division, joined the group for part of the ride.

Chief Warrant Officer Joseph Wisniewski, food service advisor for the 43rd Area Support Group, said that about 30 cooks and 30 other Soldiers put the coffee on about 4:30 a.m. Wednesday after leaving post at 2 a.m. Six serving lines were set up using equipment from four mobile kitchen trailers. The food is ordered by the Sertoma Club and delivered to the site.

"It's a lot of work (to cook pancakes for 9,000 people) but we have a good time," Wisniewski said.

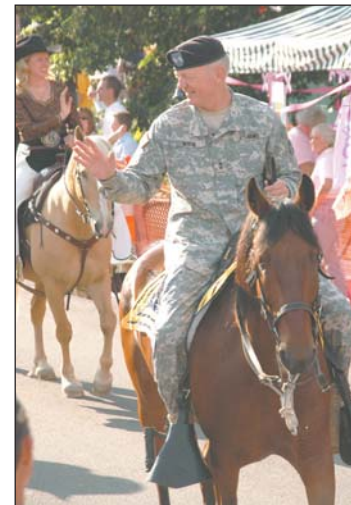
Soldiers mixed up 1,100 pounds of pancake batter and 1,500 pounds of eggs, and served 80 gallons of syrup, 2,500 pints of juice, 7,500 pints of milk and 500 gallons of coffee.

"The cooks enjoy it and it's good community relations between the Army and Colorado Springs. It's a good event," Wisniewski said.

Leaders from the 43rd ASG chain of command helped serve the food, including commanders, first sergeants, sergeants major and other leaders from the 759th Military Police Company, 984th Military Police Company and 59th Military Police Company, the 68th Corps Support Battalion, 10th Combat Support Hospital, 60th Ordnance, 360th Transportation, 2nd Transportation, 183rd Maintenance, 59th Quartermaster and 32nd Transportation.



Soldiers prepare pancakes for 9,000 diners during the annual street breakfast held in downtown Colorado Springs. This is the 46th year Soldiers have prepared breakfast for the street breakfast.



Maj. Gen. Robert W. Mixon Jr., commanding general, Fort Carson and 7th ID, waves to onlookers as he heads out on the range ride with the Pike Peak Range Riders, at the conclusion of the 46th annual street breakfast.



1st Lt. Tera Porter, of the 32nd Transportation Company, ladles syrup on pancakes at the 46th annual Street breakfast held in downtown Colorado Springs.

Photos by Master Sgt. Dennis E. Beebe




**Summer Concert**  
in the park

**every thursday, july 6 - august 10**  
**iron horse park**

julio and me - July 6  
dwight shaw big band - July 13  
the riders - July 20  
chase n' the dream - July 27  
world's most dangerous band - August 3  
blue steel - August 10

All performances are **FREE** and begin at 6:00 pm


for more information **526-4494**



**HISTORIC CRIPPLE CREEK**  
GETAWAY TRIP

July 12th  
\$10 adult, \$8 child  
(adults 13 yrs. and older, children 12 yrs. and under)

for information: 526-5366




**YMCA**  
[www.ppyymca.org](http://www.ppyymca.org)

YMCA of the Pikes Peak Region,  
in conjunction with the Department of Defense  
is pleased to offer all  
**Active Duty Fort Carson Service Members**  
a **Free YMCA Membership!**

- Any active duty military currently stationed at Fort Carson is eligible thanks to a DoD contract
- Simply bring a copy of your orders and military ID card and we will sign you up
- Ask a staff member how to upgrade to a family membership at a reduced rate
- Membership offer is valid at any YMCA of the Pikes Peak Region's six convenient locations

Questions? Please call 622-9622 for more information.




Turkey Creek Ranch  
Fort Carson, Colorado



**Saddle up for a trail ride:**  
Horses head down the trail five times a day Wednesday through Sunday. Trail rides are for riders 7 years of age or older.

**Put your Buckaroo on a pony:**  
Young children ages 2 - 9 can ride for 10 minute increments to fit their attention span. Ponies are available Wednesday through Sunday from 1100 - 1500.

**Turkey Creek Ranch**  
719-526-3905



# Santa's Workshop

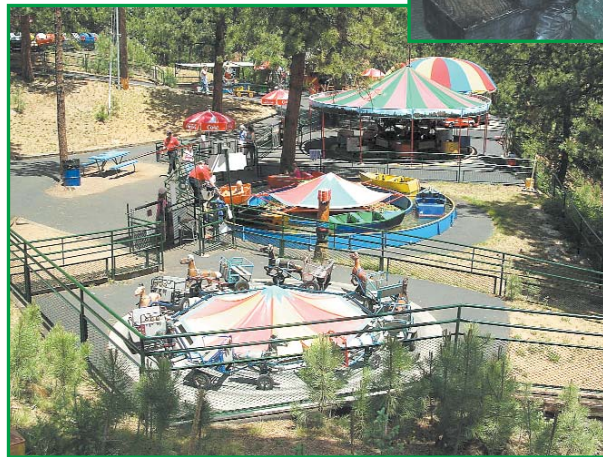
## at the North Pole



A Christmas tree ride is one of the holiday-theme rides in Santa's Enchanted Forest.



Santa waits in his cozy log cabin for young visitors to Santa's Workshop at the North Pole.



Several rides designed for younger children are in Santa's Enchanted Forest at the Christmas theme park near Cascade.

# Happoemins

Story and photos by Nel Lampe  
Mountaineer staff

Seeing Santa Claus in person is a fond childhood memory for many people. Fort Carson residents are just a few miles away from the Christmas theme park of Santa's Workshop at the North Pole, and now would be a good time to give your children happy memories of Santa while there's a special military admission price for the entire season.

Santa's Workshop at the North Pole is in its 50th year of providing memories.

The amusement park easily fulfills a child's fantasy: Santa Claus sits in a comfortable chair in his cozy house waiting for children to visit; a village of small shops with bright red roofs and gingerbread trim look like they came straight from a fairy tale. Shops are stuffed with toys and tree ornaments. Holiday music wafts over the sound

system. There's a magic show, an antique carousel with reindeer and dozens of amusement rides, many of them geared for young children.

What can be better than having Christmas year-round? Just arriving at the site is a little magical. The giant peppermint slide can be seen from the parking lot. Head for the bright red and white entrance building to begin the adventure.

Many of the park's rides are traditional family favorites, such as the Tilt-a-Whirl, which has been around for more than 75 years.

Although Santa's Workshop is definitely designed for younger children, parents, grandparents and teenagers do enjoy some of the rides, such as the electric cars, mini-Himalayan ride, aerial tram and train. There's also an old-fashioned arcade, which is not included in the admission fee.

Paths and benches are throughout

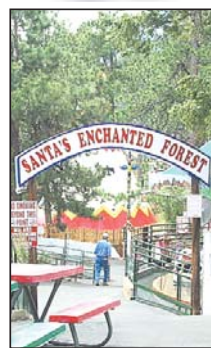
the village. There's a water wheel, a post office, a candle shop, a girls' shop, a Christmas shop and a boys' shop.

The magic show house has a show several times a day. There's a chapel, a pond and a frozen "north pole."

After exploring the village, visiting the shops, catching a magic show and stopping at Santa's house for a visit, head for Santa's Enchanted Forest on the south end of the park. There's a park area with lots of rides geared for small children, such as the ladybug ride, a small Ferris wheel, a child-size roller coaster, boats and motorcycles.

There's also a group of rides more attractive to the teenagers and adults in the crowd, such as the haunted house, scrambler, space shuttle, dive bombers and a large Ferris wheel.

There are 24 rides in the 25-acre



Places to see in the Pikes Peak area.

June 30, 2006





The Tilt-A-Whirl is one of the traditional rides at Santa's Workshop at the North Pole.



Visitors enter the post office at North Pole. Gifts are also sold in the shop.



Children eagerly approach the entrance to Santa's Workshop at the North Pole, a Christmas theme park near Cascade on Highway 24 West.



The paratroopers' ride is near the popular peppermint slide, close to the theme park's entrance.

## Santa

From Page 25

park. Although many of visitors are Colorado residents, many vacationing families visit the park — sometimes including grandparents, aunts and uncles. More than 4,000 military and their family members visited the park last season.

Since a visit to the Christmas village may take a large part of the day, visitors may bring their own picnic lunch to eat at the picnic tables near the train station just inside the park, but no glass containers or alcohol are allowed. Inquire at the entrance about procedures for returning to the car for the lunch.

Or, buy refreshments at Mother Hubbard's Cupboard, Miss Muffett's Snacks or the Carousel Café. Hamburgers, hot dogs, fries, nachos and funnel cakes are sold. There's also ice cream, hot chocolate, coffee and soft drinks.

The theme park is wooded, hilly and has several steep paths to negotiate, so a stroller for young children could be helpful. Strollers may be rented at the entrance.

The small Christmas-theme park opened in 1956. It was patterned after a Santa village at Lake Placid, N.Y., designed by a former Walt Disney artist Arturo Monaco. An 8-year old girl had described what she thought Santa's village must look like and Monaco created the

blueprints for a magical village.

In 1956, the village had 12 alpine-style buildings including Santa's house, workshops, a blacksmith shop, a barn, showhouse, souvenir house, a chapel and Mother Hubbard's Cupboard.

The Santa village was a year old when the Haggard family took it over. The family added a mine ride, the Christmas tree ride and an antique Herschell-Spillman carousel. Rides were added almost every year since.

The park is open daily in summer, from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. The park is closed Tuesday and Wednesdays in May and after school starts in August and is open through Christmas Eve.

Remember that Santa's Workshop at North Pole is at a higher altitude than Colorado Springs and is tree-shaded, so temperatures may be several degrees cooler than Colorado Springs. A sweater or light jacket may be needed, especially on a rainy, cloudy day.

The admission to Santa's Workshop at North Pole is \$16.95 for everyone from 2 to 59, and includes shows, rides and attractions. For military members who show military identification, the price is \$10 per person.

Except for the arcade and the souvenir shop at the exit, shops at Santa's Workshop don't operate on a cash basis. Each visitor is issued a card for all purchases to be recorded. When exiting, all cards are presented to cashiers and the charges are paid at that time. Payment may be made by cash, Visa, Discover, Master Card or

personal checks — with adequate identification.

Arrangements can be made for children's birthday parties in the Rainbow Party Room; call 684-9432.

To reach Santa's Workshop at the North Pole, take Cimarron Street/Highway 24 west from Highway 115 or Interstate 25 north. Take Highway 24 west about 10 miles, beyond Manitou Springs. At the small town of Cascade, turn left at the sign for Pikes Peak Highway. There's a sign for Santa's Workshop and plenty of free parking.

Because of the Pikes Peak International Hill Climb Saturday on the Pikes Peak Highway, if visiting Santa's Workshop Saturday be prepared for heavy traffic before and after the race in the Cascade area.

### Just the Facts

- **Travel time:** about 30 minutes
- **For ages:** all families
- **Type:** Christmas theme park
- **Fun factor:** HHHHH  
(Out of 5 stars)
- **Wallet damage:** \$\$ plus food  
 \$ = Less than \$20  
 \$\$ = \$21 to \$40  
 \$\$\$ = \$41 to \$60  
 \$\$\$\$ = \$61 to \$80  
 (Based on a family of four)

## GO! Get Out!

### Colorado Renaissance

**The 30th Colorado Renaissance Festival is in Larkspur**, between Colorado Springs and Denver, at Exit 172, off Interstate 25, is open Saturdays and Sundays, rain or shine, 10 a.m.-6:30 p.m. through July. Adult tickets are \$16.95, children's tickets are \$8. Get discounted tickets at Information, Tickets and Registration in the Outdoor Recreation building.

### Rockies appreciate military

**Coors Field has military appreciation days at certain Colorado Rockies games with the Milwaukee Brewers in July and August, the New York Mets in August and the Washington Nationals in September.** Call (303) ROCKIES to purchase \$6 tickets, identify yourself as an active military member or veteran and provide the reference number: 741532. There's a \$2.50 service charge and a credit card must be used. This offer is not available at Coors Field ticket windows. See the post Web site, [www.carson.army.mil](http://www.carson.army.mil) for more information.

### Rodeo parade

**The Pikes Peak or Bust annual rodeo parade, with the theme "The Legend Grows,"** is July 8 in downtown Colorado Springs kicks off the rodeo — it's the biggest parade in the area. It begins at 10 a.m. A "Western Heritage

Street Festival" follows in Acacia Park with a concert by Mark Wills at 9 p.m. Call 262-7160 for information.

### Fort Carson night at the rodeo

**The 66th Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo is July 12-16 in Norris-Penrose Stadium, on Rio Grande between Eighth and 21st streets.** Tickets are at TicketsWest, 576-2626. Fort Carson night is July 14. Soldiers and families get a discount.

### National Little Britches Rodeo

**Military members with identification and their families get in free at the National Little Britches Rodeo Finals July 18, at 9 a.m. or 6 p.m. at the Pueblo State Fairgrounds in Pueblo.** Other performances July 17-22 cost \$1-8.

### World Theatre

**The Colorado Festival of World Theatre is July 20-30 in various theaters in Colorado Springs and Woodland Park.** Featured productions include "Black Comedy," "Talking Heads," "Toxic Audio," "Frogz," Shakespeare's Villains," and "Emergence-SEE!" "Frogz," set for July 25-29 in Woodland Park at the high school, has discounted tickets for military members and their families. Learn more about the productions and tickets at [www.ColoradoFestival.org](http://www.ColoradoFestival.org), (719) 955-2599.

### Free concerts

**Every Wednesday through Aug. 23, there's a free concert at 6 p.m. in America the**

Beautiful Park. The park, near Interstate 25 and Bijou Street, hosts Dave Rucker Trio in a jazz concert Wednesday. Concerts are cancelled in case of rain.

### Buell Children's Museum

**Buell Children's Museum in Pueblo has an "Over the Rainbow" exhibit in the museum through Aug. 26.** There's a Wizard of Oz collection, an arts and crafts project to create a scarecrow, children create puppets and other projects that tie in to the Wizard of Oz. Admission to the museum and the galleries in the Arts Center is \$4 for adults and \$3 for children. The museum is open Tuesdays through Saturdays, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., and is at 210 N. Santa Fe Ave., downtown; take Exit 98B off Interstate 25.

### Greek Festival

**The 8th annual Greek Festival is at the Archangel Michael Greek Orthodox Church at 2215 Paseo Road July 14 from 4-10 p.m., July 15, 11 a.m.-10 p.m. and July 16, 11 a.m.-7 p.m.** Admission is free; traditional foods are sold.

### Military get in free at Mr. Biggs

**To honor the armed forces, all active duty military get a free all-day pass Tuesday with military identification.** Mr. Biggs Family Fun Center is at 5825 Mark Dabbling Blvd., phone 955-7220.

**Editor's note:** *More Independence Day activities are listed on page 11.*



Photo by Nel Lampe

## Denver museum

*Time is running out to see the special exhibit in the Denver Museum of Nature and Science, "Body Worlds 2: The Anatomical Exhibit of Real Human Bodies." The special exhibit ends July 23. There's a \$10 fee for this exhibit. Go online at [www.DMNS.com](http://www.DMNS.com) or call (303) 322-7009 to buy tickets and request a time to see the exhibit. The museum is in Denver's City Park, 2001 Colorado Blvd.*

## Buster's Baghdad

by Maj. James D. Crabtree





# SPORTS & LEISURE

## USA team gears up for tournament

by **Walt Johnson**

*Mountaineer staff*

The under - 18 team that is representing the United States in the FIBA tournament at the U.S. Olympic Training Center today through Sunday warmed up for the tournament by defeating the Canadian national team 81-69 in an exhibition match at the Special Events Center June 23.

With Maj. Gen Robert W. Mixon Jr., commanding general of Fort Carson and the 7th Infantry Division, among the onlookers, the USA team showed its athleticism and ability, and will be hard to beat as the tournament wraps up Sunday in Colorado Springs.

The FIBA Americas under-18 championships is being hosted by USA Basketball and will include teams from Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Costa Rica, Paraguay and Puerto Rico. There will be three games today, Saturday and Sunday, when the winner will be crowned. The specific tournament schedule can be found at: [www.usabasketball.com/women/2006/06\\_wu18\\_results.html](http://www.usabasketball.com/women/2006/06_wu18_results.html).

USA women's team has a 24-2 overall record in the U18/junior qualifiers, winning gold medals in 1988, 2000 and 2004, and silver medals in 1992 and 1996.

The game with the Canadian team was filled with excitement and fast-moving action. Both teams came out a little bit nervous as the crowd at the Special Events Center was flowing in. Shots were long and the ball handling was not what it would be as the teams tried to settle in and play the game to its abilities.

When the teams did settle down, the USA team showed the crowd and its coaching staff what it could do as players took every opportunity to run the floor, battle for loose balls and rebound. As the game played out, the U.S. team was able to maintain a lead throughout most of the game, building a lead of as much as 26 points at one time.

Late in the second half, the Canadian team started to creep closer to the U.S. team but never was able to get closer than 12 points as the U.S. secured a victory.

After the game, Doug Bruno, U.S. team head coach, said there were some good signs from his team and some predictable results based on the amount of time the team has been together.

"We've only been together five



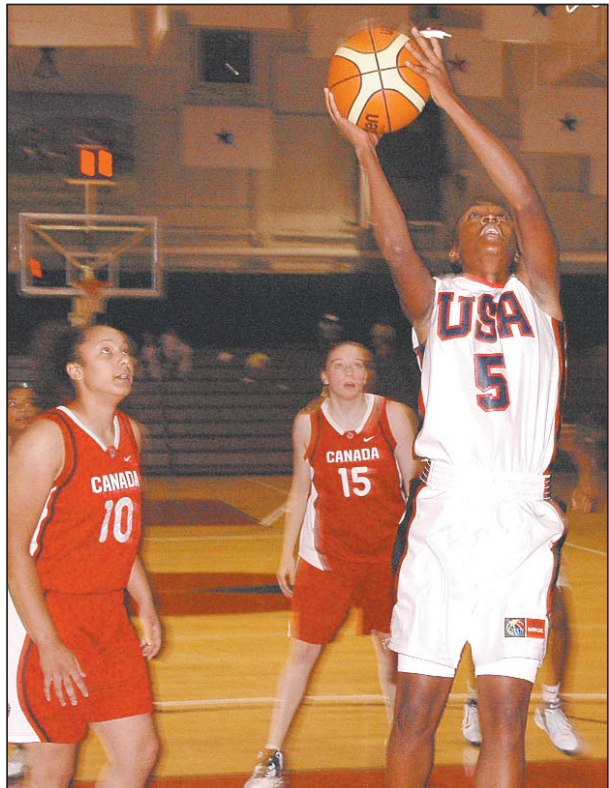
Photos by Master Sgt. Dennis E. Beebe

USA guard Brittainey Raven, 7, drives to the basket against the Canadian national team June 23 at the Special Events Center on post.

See **Hoops** on Page 42



USA guard Italee Lucas, left, fires up a jump shot over Canada's Kalisha Keane during action Friday at the Special Events Center on post.



USA guard Nikitta Gartrell goes up with a rebound while members of the Canadian national team look on.



## On the Bench

# Army boxers compete in Colorado Springs show

by **Walt Johnson**

*Mountaineer staff*

**Former World Class Athlete Program boxer Torrence Daniels will be in action Wednesday in a boxing program at the City Auditorium, 221 East Kiowa St., in Colorado Springs.**

The ESPN show, which will be televised live, will feature Daniels fighting in a super bantamweight bout, which will feature some of the up-and-coming fighters in the country. If anyone would like to purchase tickets, Basheer Abdullah, WCAP head boxing coach, has them available at the WCAP training facility. The tickets sell for \$20 and \$25. For more information or to purchase a ticket call Abdullah at 526-3865.

**Saturday morning at the Cheyenne Shadows Golf Course on post is a lively place to be for golfers who know exactly what they are doing and for those who are trying to learn the game.**

Mike Luttmann took the time Saturday to bring his daughter Erika Luttmann and her friend Kara Miller out to teach them the basics of the game. Watching them, you couldn't tell who was having the most fun, Luttmann or the youths who were getting to hit golf balls and understand the game with good results. Luttmann said he wanted to do something more on a Saturday than the usual with his daughter and her friend so he chose to bring them to the course.

"It just seemed like a nice Saturday to come out and teach the kids some golf instead of them sitting around watching television and they are having a great time. This is just good time for us to spend together. I gave them a set of irons and put the ball on a tee which makes it easier for them to hit. I like it because it gives them that first sense of accomplishment



Photo by Walt Johnson

## Going for par

*Mike Luttmann, center, and family friend Kara Miller, left, watch as his daughter Erika Luttmann practices her putting at the post golf course Saturday.*



Photo by Walt Johnson

## Coach of the week

*Ray Good, Youth Center 7-9 year old LSU Tigers coach serves up pitches to his players during recent action at the youth baseball field on post.*

## Bench

From Page 32

on the golf course. It gets to be exciting for them and they will want to come back and do it again," Luttmann said.

Luttmann said his daughter and her friend also do other activities together like play basketball, T-ball and other sports and this just seemed like another sport they could do on a Saturday morning. He said the women were excited about learning the game but did have to take time to do one aspect more repetitively than another.

"They are having a little bit of trouble being gentle with it (putting) because they want to hit the putts real hard. But when they do slow it down and the ball goes in the hole, they are real proud of themselves. I think it also gives them the confidence to know that they are doing something new and that when they do something new in the future they will know they can do anything they are willing to work hard at," Luttmann said.

Luttmann also said he is teaching his daughter the game because he is looking toward the future and the type of time he can spend with his daughter in the coming years. "Any kind of activity that I can teach her now that I can do with her in my old age is going to be great," Luttmann said with a laugh.

**The Directorate of Morale, Welfare and Recreation tennis matches scheduled to be held this past Saturday were postponed because of high wind conditions that made playing tennis impossible.**

However, for anyone interested in playing

## *Mountaineer Sports Feature*



Photo by Sgt. Clint Stein

### **Varsity hoops**

*Fort Carson varsity basketball player Ron Bartley fires up a jump shot Saturday during an informal team-building session at the Special Events Center. Robert Nieto, Fort Carson men's varsity basketball coach, said the team wanted to get in some conditioning work and do some team-building as it prepares to play games this summer, leading into the fall season in October.*

## Mountaineer Intramural Sports



Photo by Walt Johnson

### Beat it

Headquarters,  
Headquarters Company,  
United States Army  
Garrison's James Myers,  
right, beats the throw  
to 43rd Combat  
Engineer Company's  
first baseman Mark  
Ross during intramural  
league action Monday  
at the Mountain Post  
Sports Complex.  
Intramural action takes  
place each Monday  
through Wednesday at  
the complex from 6-9  
p.m. and coed action  
takes place each  
Thursday from 6-8 p.m.



## Mountaineer Sports Standings

### American League

Team Name	W	L
A Co, 2/2 STB	5	0
HHC, 7th ID	8	2
3rd ACR, ABA	9	3
Maint Co/RSSS	7	3
MEDDAC	4	4
43rd ASG	1	1
D Co, 2 BSB	1	1
59th QM	1	1
D Co, 1/3	1	2
A Co, 1/9	1	4
68th CSB	0	3
230th Finance	1	10



Photo by Walt Johnson

*Supply and Transportation Troop's Eric Traywick fires to first base during coed action June 22 at the Mountain Post Sports Complex.*

### Western Conference

Team Name	W	L
43rd CEC	2	0
HHC, 1/12 Inf	4	1
1st MOB	5	4
71st OD GP	4	4
S & T Troop	4	5
89th Chem	4	5
7th ID, IRT Co	4	5
HHC USAG	2	8
3/61 Cav	1	2
O Troop, 4/3	1	5
13th ASOS	0	2
HHC, 43rd ASG	0	2



## "I'm ready, coach"

*Youth center  
Badgers' Assistant Coach  
Demond Swindler, right,  
talks with Emily  
Sons, after  
Sons reached  
second and  
was ready to  
advance  
to third  
base during  
action  
Saturday  
on post.*

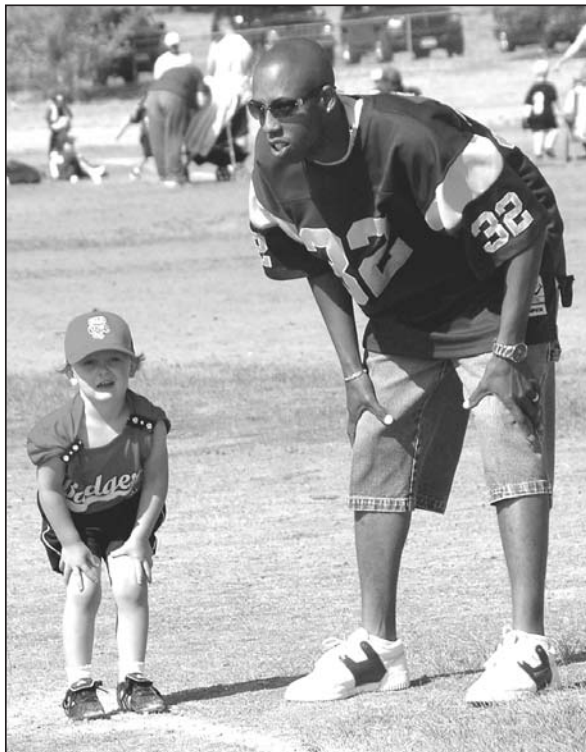


Photo by Walt Johnson

## Bench

From Page 34

doubles, the matches will resume July 8 at the Mountain Post Sports Complex. According to Steve Hollister, DMWR sports, matches will be played Saturday from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. "The first few Saturdays will be used to assess skill levels and the games will consist of one set of matches," Hollister said. For more information on the program contact Hollister at 526-1023.

**The Colorado Springs Flames, a semipro football team that features members of the military community in Colorado Springs, won its military appreciation game against the Denver Wildcats 30-10 Saturday, securing its hold on first place in the Colorado Football Conference.**

The Flames' next game will be July 8 when the team travels to Wyoming to meet the Wyoming Wranglers at 2 p.m. The team's next home game will be July 22 when the team will host the Mile High Grizzlies at Fountain-Fort Carson High School's Guy Barrickman Stadium on the high school campus.

Tickets will be available for purchase at the gate starting at 6 p.m. The ticket prices are: \$4 for adults, \$3 for children 10-17 and free for children under 10.

Concessions will be available at the game. No coolers are allowed inside the stadium.

**The Colorado Springs/Fort Carson Rugby Football Club is looking for players.**

Anyone interested in being a part of the rugby team can come out to Bear Creek Park (Argus Boulevard and 21st Street in Colorado Springs) and participate in some touch sessions from 6:30 p.m. till dark, according to Mike McMaster, team coach.

To learn more about the rugby club and game days contact McMaster at 526-1589 or e-mail him at [michael.mcmaster@carson.army.mil](mailto:michael.mcmaster@carson.army.mil).

## Hoops

From Page 31

days so we're still learning our team. We have some very talented players and you were able to see some great strengths out there. You saw us able to get up by 26 points. But you also saw us squander most of that lead and only win by 12 points. We're still learning each other. What we have to do is reeducate the players what this is about. We have so many talented players that the success of our team is not going to revolve around one player.

"We have a very quick and athletic basketball team. Our depth is the strongest part of our team. We have great quickness and depth on our team. I like the constitution of a lot of our players and a lot of the players have shown some great mental strength. We have some very talented kids out there and we will get out and run a little bit and get up and down the floor," Bruno said.

"We have some things to work on. Can we score in the half-court game? Can we understand the different scenarios that will face us during a basketball game?" Bruno asked.

After the game, the two teams held an autograph signing session for the fans. It was an exciting event for both teams as they got a chance to relax and interact with the people on post. One of the more memorable events took place as 4-month old Dominic Astorga McConnell got more attention from the women than a break-away basket would have gotten. The 4-month-old child was passed around to each member of the team as they signed his shirt.



Photo by Walt Johnson

*Katie League, right, smiles as members of the USA under-18 women's basketball team autograph her cast after the game when players turned to fans. The team and their Canadian counterparts in signed autographs for the people that came out to watch the exhibition match between the USA and Canada Friday at the post Special Events Center.*